



United States Senator

Connie Mack



Florida Republican

<http://www.senate.gov/~mack>

United States Senator Connie Mack of Florida was sworn into office in January 1995 for his second term after becoming the first Republican in Florida history to be re-elected to the U.S. Senate. Mack received 70 percent of the vote in 1994, more than any other Republican Senate candidate in the nation.

Mack was elected by his colleagues without opposition to serve in the Republican majority caucus as Conference Chairman, making him the third-ranking member of the Senate Republican leadership.

Before his election to the Senate, he served three two-year terms as a member of the House of Representatives from Southwest Florida. In April 1994, Mack was named by Campaigns and Elections magazine as one of the 20 most popular elected officials in America. As a House member, he was identified by U.S. News and World Report as one of the nation's most effective, "new rising political stars."

In 1996, Mack was considered by Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole to serve as his vice-presidential running mate.

Mack has a long history of fighting for deficit reduction and is a strong advocate for a balanced budget constitutional amendment.

Mack led a successful effort in 1995 to cut congressional spending by 9-percent -- the largest cut in congressional spending in 40 years.

As chairman of a Senate Republican task force, he proposed -- and the caucus passed -- reforms aimed at setting a legislative agenda and lessening the chamber's allegiance to the seniority system.

He and his wife Priscilla, both cancer survivors, have been honored for their work with Florida and national

cancer organizations, including the American Cancer Society, for promoting the life-saving benefits of early cancer detection. He co-founded the Senate Cancer Coalition to pursue cancer issues. Senator Mack is President of the national American Cancer Society Foundation.



A staunch supporter of the notion that the federal government has a legitimate role in furthering medical research, Mack introduced a Sense of the Senate Resolution in the first days of the 105th Congress calling for funding to the National Institutes of Health to be doubled from \$12.75 to \$25.5 billion over the next five years.

In the 105th Congress, Mack introduced legislation -- the National Institutes of Health Trust Fund Act of 1997 -- eliminating the ability of tobacco companies to take a tax deduction on the amount of their lawsuit settlements and instead have that amount -- estimated at \$100 billion -- spent on medical research.

Senator Mack's committee assignments include: 1) Joint Economic Committee (Vice-Chairman); 2) Finance -- Long Term Growth, Debt & Deficit Reduction Subcommittee Chairman; 3) Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs -- Housing, Opportunity and Community Development Subcommittee Chairman. He has previously held assignments with the Armed Services, Appropriations, Foreign Relations, Intelligence, Budget, and Small Business Committees.

In 1990, he led a group of Senate Republicans who encouraged President Bush not to support higher taxes because of the adverse economic impact.

Mack has fought to help Florida receive its fair share from Washington by introducing legislation and leading bi-partisan efforts to require the use of updated census figures in population-based grant allocations. He introduced legislation -- the Surface Transportation and Transit

Recent Accomplishments

- Unanimously elected to Senate Republican Leadership
- Called for doubling funding of National Institutes of Health
- Fought to secure nearly \$300 million for Everglades clean-up
- Introduced the STATE Act - to eliminate the federal government's role in most surface transportation programs
- Introduced legislation to eliminate the ability of tobacco companies to take a tax deduction on the amount of their lawsuit settlements and instead have that amount -- estimated at \$100 billion -- spent on medical research
- Co-Chairman of Senate Cancer Coalition

"Less Taxing, Less Spending, Less Government, More Freedom"

Empowerment (STATE) Act, -- to allow states to "opt-out" of the federal transportation program and keep almost all of their gas tax revenues for their own projects without interference from Washington.

He has fought for more Major League Baseball in Florida. His efforts were featured in a '60 Minutes' segment.

To protect the state's pristine environment, **Mack has fought against offshore drilling along the state's coast.** He is an ardent supporter of restoring the Everglades. He played a prominent role in a group of Republican lawmakers who in 1995 succeeded in securing nearly \$300 million for Everglades clean-up, the largest amount of Everglades funding in history.

Senator Mack supports free speech rights. During the controversy over the rap group 2 Live Crew, Mack said adults should have the right to listen to the rappers in the privacy of their homes without government interference.

In foreign policy, Mack supports efforts to promote and preserve freedom. Within his first seven months in the Senate in 1989, his bi-partisan legislation became law to require State Department reports on PLO activities.

An opponent of normalizing relations with Cuba, he formed the Senate Cuba Freedom Caucus and **saw his amendment to tighten the economic embargo against Fidel Castro become law.**

He is co-chairman of the Congressional Hong Kong Caucus -- a bi-partisan group of lawmakers dedicated to the belief that freedom and liberty in Hong Kong must be preserved when China takes control of the island in July, 1997.

For their efforts to promote early cancer detection, Senator and Mrs. Mack have been honored by the American Cancer Society with the 1992 Courage Award; the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's Betty Ford Award; and Mrs. Mack with the Don Shula Foundation's "Wedgwood Tribute to Courage Award." They both are active in Florida and national cancer programs for the American Cancer Society.

Senator Mack's interest in economics stems from his 16 years as a community banker, including five years as president of Florida National Bank of Lee County. Educated at the



University of Florida, he holds a degree in Marketing from the School of Business. As a local civic leader in Cape Coral, he helped to lead an effort to build a local hospital.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on October 29, 1940, Senator Mack was married in September 1960 to the former Priscilla Hobbs, a native of Fort Myers where they now reside. They have two children and three grandchildren.

Senator Mack is a grandson of the legendary baseball manager and owner of the Philadelphia Athletics, Connie Mack.

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Senator Mack's Committee Assignments

Senate Republican Conference - Chairman

Finance Committee Chairman - *Subcommittee on Long Term Growth, Debt & Deficit Reduction*

Joint Economic Committee - Vice Chairman

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Housing, Opportunity and Community Development